



# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore MD 21230

410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

Shari T. Wilson  
Secretary

Anthony G. Brown  
Lieutenant Governor

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.  
Deputy Secretary

March 15, 2010

The Honorable Norman H. Conway, Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
House Office Building, Room 121  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: House Bill 1240 - Creation of a State Debt – Baltimore City – Long-Term Care at Stadium Place

Dear Delegate Conway and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE or “the Department”) has reviewed House Bill 1240 - Creation of a State Debt – Baltimore City – Long-Term Care at Stadium Place. We would like to express our support for this bill.

The Stadium Place is a retirement community located in Baltimore City. This legislation calls for creation of a State Debt up to \$350,000 to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation (GEDCO), for improvements to the Stadium Place water distribution system. This bill as proposed requires the grantee to provide 100% match, using non-state funds. Since October 2009, some residents and employees of the Stadium Place have experienced health related issues that could be attributed to the water distribution system serving the property. The Department concurs with the GEDCO's recommendation to improve the distribution system. It is imperative to have the improvements implemented as soon as possible, since the water quality, combined with the vulnerability of the elderly residents, place them at a higher risk to legionella and other infectious diseases associated with microbial contamination from drinking water.

Thank you for your consideration. We will continue to monitor House Bill 1240 during the Committee's deliberations, and I am available to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me at 410-260-6301 or by e-mail at [lnissley@mde.state.md.us](mailto:lnissley@mde.state.md.us) if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Lisa Nissley

cc: Shari T. Wilson, Secretary  
Heather Barthel, Director, Legislation and Policy  
Jay G. Sakai, MDE, Director, Water Management Administration